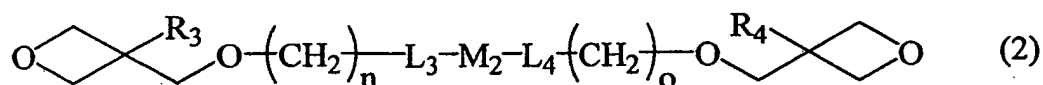
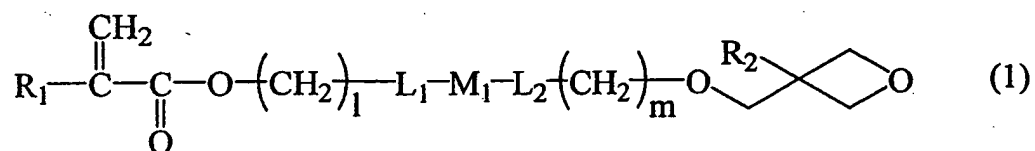


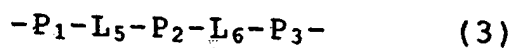
IN THE CLAIMS:

Amend claim 1 as shown in the following listing of claims, which replaces all previous listings and versions of claims:

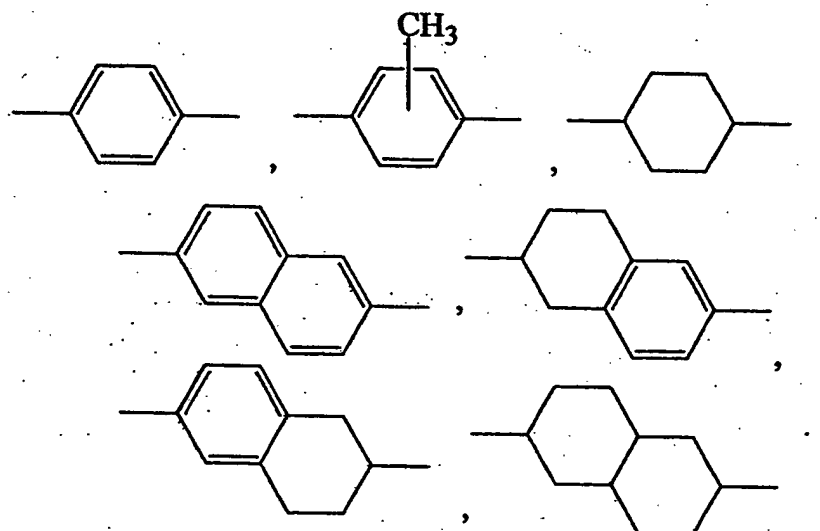
1. (currently amended) A liquid crystal film obtained by fixing an aligned structure of a liquid crystal material containing at least a side chain-type polymeric liquid crystalline substance obtained by copolymerizing ~~homopolymerizing~~ the (meth)acrylic portion of a (meth)acrylic compound having an oxetanyl group represented by formula (1) below ~~or copolymerizing the same~~ with another (meth)acrylic compound and a difunctional low molecular weight liquid crystalline substance having two oxetanyl groups represented by formula (2):



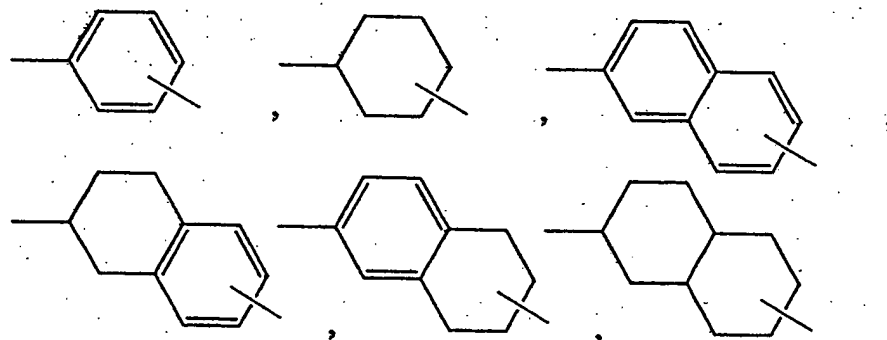
wherein  $R_1$  is hydrogen or methyl;  $R_2$ ,  $R_3$ , and  $R_4$  are each independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, methyl, and ethyl;  $L_1$ ,  $L_2$ ,  $L_3$ , and  $L_4$  are each independently selected from the group consisting of a single bond, -O-, -O-CO-, and -CO-O-;  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are each independently represented by a formula selected from the group consisting of formulas (3), (4) and (5) below; and 1, m, n, and o are each independently an integer from 0 to 10:



wherein  $P_1$  and  $P_2$  are each independently a group selected from the group consisting of formulas (6) below;  $P_3$  is a group selected from the group consisting of formulas (7) below; and  $L_5$  and  $L_6$  are each independently selected from the group consisting of a single bond,  $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ ,  $-\text{C}\equiv\text{C}-$ ,  $-\text{O}-$ ,  $-\text{O}-\text{CO}-$  and  $-\text{CO}-\text{O}-$  :

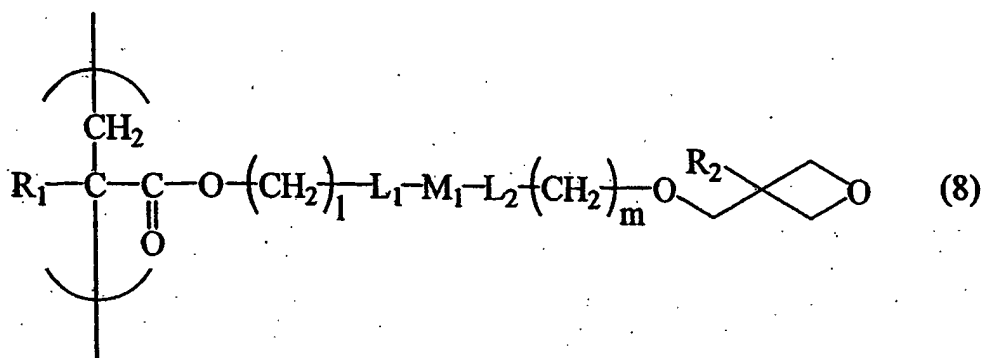


(6)



(7)

2. (original) The liquid crystal film according to claim 1 wherein said side chain-type polymeric liquid crystalline substance contains a unit represented by formula (8) below in an amount of 5 to 100 percent by mol:



wherein  $\text{R}_1$ ,  $\text{R}_2$ ,  $\text{L}_1$ ,  $\text{L}_2$ ,  $\text{M}_1$ ,  $l$  and  $m$  are the same as those in formula (1).

3. (original) The liquid crystal film according to claim 1 or 2 wherein the weight-average molecular weight of said side chain-type polymeric crystalline substance is from 2,000 to 100,000.

4. (previously presented) The liquid crystal film according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said liquid crystal material contains said side chain-type polymeric liquid crystalline substance in an amount of at least 10 percent by mass or more and said difunctional low molecular weight liquid crystalline substance in an amount of at least 5 percent by mass or more.

5. (previously presented) The liquid crystal film according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said liquid crystal material contains a photo-cation generator and/or a thermal-cation generator.

6. (previously presented) The liquid crystal film according to claim 1 or 2 wherein said film is one obtained by developing said liquid crystal material over an alignment substrate so as to be aligned and fixing the liquid crystal material in the aligned state by irradiation with light and/or a heat treatment.

7. (original) The liquid crystal film according to claim 6 wherein said liquid crystal material is fixed in an aligned structure selected from the group consisting of nematic, nematic hybrid, and smectic orientations.

8. (original) An optical film comprising the liquid crystal film according to claim 1.

9. (original) The optical film according to claim 8 which is a film selected from the group consisting of a  $\lambda/2$  film, a  $\lambda/4$  film, a color compensation film, a retardation film, and a viewing angle improving film.

10. (original) A liquid crystal display device which is equipped with the optical film according to claim 8 or 9.